

# HALIFAX IS IN FLAMES

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WASHINGTON, DEC. 6.—Four hundred and seventy-five graduate nurses for "immediate and urgent army service" are needed before December 12, it is announced, and in the course of the next year at least 20,000 nurses will be required in army hospitals in this country and Europe.

"Of the total number of graduates in this country, approximately 80,000," said a statement by Miss Dora E. Thompson, superintendent of the army nurse corps, "only 3,500 have so far been assigned to duty in the army service and of this number 1,500 are in France. We should have on file the names of thousands of nurses who could respond to a call on short notice."

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5 a. m.	34	23
9 a. m.	35	17
12 noon	46	25
2 p. m.	46	27
Maximum Dec. 5	45	43
Minimum Dec. 5	30	32
Relative humidity at 2 p. m. today, 25 per cent.		

ALTIERS WERE LIGHT.

(By Associated Press.)  
ITALIAN HEADQUARTERS, Dec. 5.—(Wednesday)—Hard fighting around Asiago developed rapidly. Intense artillery, followed by liquid gas waves, preceded the enemy assaults. Fighting continued throughout yesterday and last night along the heights back of Asiago, along a line of ten miles. Attacks and counterattacks are continuing, leaving the final outcome in doubt.

(By Associated Press.)  
LONDON, DEC. 6.—The British advanced slightly southwest of Isonzo, but withdrew to the southwest of Noyelles-sur-Lescault and the Burdon wood Tuesday night. Apparently the Germans were unaware of the move until late yesterday.

Elaborate arrangements have been made at the point of shipment to receive the packages. The army mail handlers permitted scarcely a package to remain longer than one day in the examining quarters before it was placed on board ship.

Officers in charge of the Christmas shipments were amazed. It was said, in the manner in which friends and relatives of the soldiers observed the requests of the railroad organizations to make early shipment abroad and their timely arrival for Christmas.

#### NAVY TO CONTROL TRADERS.

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, DEC. 6.—The super war council today discussed naval control of merchant ships at a meeting in the war department. Secretaries Daniels and Baker approved the plan and it now remains for the shipping board to adopt it. The plan provides for recruiting into the naval reserve all seamen and ships officers which enter the war zone.

#### Germany Rejects Russ Proposals

(By Associated Press.)  
PETROGRAD, DEC. 5.—(Wednesday)—Representatives of Germany, Austria, Turkey and Bulgaria met the Russian emissaries to discuss an armistice at Brest Litovsk. The central powers' delegates informed the Russians they had power to negotiate only for conditions of the armistice, which the Russian official communication calls an "evasive declaration."

The enemy replied to the Russian request that all belligerents be asked to participate that the committee didn't possess the necessary powers.

The communication says: "The enemy delegation declared our conditions unacceptable and expressed the opinion that such demands could be addressed only to a conquered country."

#### U. S. Aviators Aid Artillery

(By Associated Press.)  
WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Nov. 5.—(Wednesday)—American aviators are working with the artillery. Results have been satisfactory in both branches of the service. American airmen Tuesday flew over a section of the American zone and took photographs. Today the artillery fired at five separate targets located from the photographs and the aviators observed results. The first shells were wide, but in four minutes the observers wireless instructions that enabled the artillery to hit the mark.

#### AUSTRIA READY FOR 'JUST' PEACE

EMPEROR IN SPEECH DECLARES THAT COUNTRY IS WILLING FOR SETTLEMENT.

(By Associated Press.)  
AMSTERDAM, DEC. 6.—A dispatch received here from Vienna quotes Emperor Charles of Austria-Hungary as saying in an address to an Austro-German delegation that the dual monarchy is ready at any time to conclude peace that would guarantee the integrity of the monarchy. He added, however, that his country would not cease fighting until its enemies renounced their intentions of dismembering it.

"The glorious successes of our armies and fleet," said Emperor Charles, "fill us with patriotic pride. After a glorious defense of our position we are now, as before, ready at any time to conclude an honorable settlement."

#### FINNS PLEAD WITH SWEDES FOR FOOD

(By Associated Press.)  
LONDON, DEC. 6.—The Finnish food commissions have appealed through the Swedish press to the Scandinavian countries for help, according to a Copenhagen dispatch, which says the situation is desperate. Thousands of families, it is said, will starve unless helped soon.

It is reported the Russian soldier organizations seized large quantities of food and completely stopped imports from Russia into Finland.

#### LEONARD WINS.

(By Associated Press.)  
ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 6.—Benny Leonard, lightweight champion, last night knocked out Gene Delmont of Memphis in the eighth round of a scheduled 10-round bout in this city.

#### MEANS TESTIFIED.

(By Associated Press.)  
CONCORD, Dec. 6.—Gaston Means is today testifying in his own defense in his trial for the murder of Mrs. Maude King.

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, DEC. 6.—Postmaster General Burleson, in his annual report to congress, declares organizations of postal employees are rapidly becoming a menace to public welfare and recommends that congress repeal the law that allows such employees to maintain organizations. The law provides that the employees may organize and become affiliated with other bodies so long as they do not impose any obligation to engage or assist in a strike against the government.

Emphasizing the need for unselfish co-operation on all sides while the

#### Vessels Crash in Harbor During Gale; Explosion Heard 61 Miles Away

#### HALIFAX FOR YEARS PRINCIPAL NAVAL PORT

(By Associated Press.)  
HALIFAX, Dec. 6.—Halifax for years has been the chief British military naval station on the American continent, and since the war has been the principal port from which men, munitions and supplies were transported from Canada to Flanders and Northern France. The harbor is one of the most spacious in the world. It is strongly fortified. The population was 47,000 in 1911.

#### ONE KILLED IN R. R. WRECK ON THE S. P.

(By Associated Press.)  
SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 6.—One man was killed and two of the crew and seven passengers were injured in the overturning of two passenger engines on the Southern Pacific between Sisson and Upton, Cal., today.

PRESIDENT SHOPS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—The president and Mrs. Wilson went Christmas shopping yesterday afternoon. They walked through the crowded streets of the downtown section for nearly two hours and stopped at various shops.

(By Associated Press.)  
BERLIN, Dec. 6.—The war office announced today that airplanes bombed London, Sherness, Gravesend, Chatham, Dover and Margate.

(By Associated Press.)  
ROME, Dec. 6.—The Italians withdrew their lines from the slopes south of Monte Sastel-Gomberto to Fozza, the spur of the northern front, after fighting all day, the war office announces.

#### U. S. MAY CLOSE ALL GOLD MINES

(By Associated Press.)  
SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 6.—Frederick Bradley today told mining experts of the western states assembled here that war exigencies will necessitate the government denying gold mines railroad freighting facilities and will finally cause suspension of operations because gold is non-essential in furthering the war.

#### IN ANNUAL REPORT POSTMASTER GENERAL SCORES UNIONIZATION

country is in the world war the postmaster general continues:

"Notwithstanding this fact, and at this critical period in our nation's history, it is regrettable to state that the organized postal employees are making many selfish demands and insisting that they shall not be required or permitted to work in excess of the usual number of hours; also that their salaries be permanently increased, although they are justly compensated, receiving more than three times as much as those fighting in the trenches who must necessarily suffer the hardships of warfare and sacrifice their all if necessary."

(By Associated Press.)  
ST. JOHN, New Brunswick, Dec. 6.—A large portion of Halifax, N. S., is in flames following an explosion in the harbor. Two vessels, one of which was loaded with munitions, collided. High explosives were included in the cargo. All water front buildings were razed. Many persons are believed to have been killed. Other ships in the harbor suffered severely, and the crews of several of them are said to have been killed.

The munitions ship is believed to be an American steamer. A fierce storm sweeping the harbor is believed to have caused the collision. An unconfirmed report says a transport was in the harbor at the time of the disaster.

The last word received said the military was in charge of the Canadian Pacific telegraph and had ordered all operators out of the building. Only two escaped injury. Scores were killed on the docks.

#### ALL Telephone and Telegraph Lines Are Down; Aid is Rushed to the Stricken City

(By Associated Press.)  
MONTREAL, Dec. 6.—Direct advices from Halifax said a French munitions ship was rammed by a Norwegian vessel. The death list is unofficially estimated at 1,200.

AMHERST, Nova Scotia, Dec. 6.—Scores were killed, hundreds of buildings destroyed and a portion of Halifax is afire as the result of an explosion following the ramming broadside of an American munitions ship by another vessel. Both were destroyed and the crews were killed.

Telegraph and telephone communication was destroyed for thirty miles around.

The explosion was heard sixty-one miles away.

The concussion collapsed the roof of the railway depot and blew freight cars from the tracks along a stretch of two miles. It damaged water front warehouses for a mile and a half and many of them are burning.

Nova Scotia cities are rushing doctors, nurses, hospital supplies, fire fighting apparatus and food.

(By Associated Press.)  
HALIFAX, Dec. 6.—Hundreds were killed and thousands injured. Half of Halifax is in ruins. The property loss totals millions.

It is reported that several transports were in the harbor. Their fate is unascertained and it is not known whether they carried troops or only crews.

TRURO, N. S., Dec. 6.—Advices received here placed the Halifax dead at 300. An unconfirmed report says the fire is under control. The northern half of the city bore the brunt of the damage.

(By Associated Press.)  
HALIFAX, Dec. 6.—(via St. John)—The fire was thought to be under control this afternoon. Richmond is destroyed. Several hundred were killed. The wounded number thousands. Not a house in the city escaped damage. Pieces of iron and shrapnel were found three miles from the water front.

(By Associated Press.)  
TRURO, Dec. 6.—Many hundreds were injured in the Halifax disaster. A passenger liner rammed the American munitions ship, which was backing from the pier, and caused the explosion and fire.

Falling in their attempt to extinguish the flames, the crew opened the sea-cocks in hopes of sinking her, but she drifted into the pier. The explosion leveled half of the Richmond district.

The dead were lying in the streets. Injured persons, unable to find accommodations, were wandering helplessly about the city.

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—The senate committee today postponed until late next week investigating Senator La Follette's St. Paul speech, when La Follette announced that his attorney was unable to appear when the senate planned beginning taking of testimony with W. J. Bryan as the first witness.

#### BREWERS CONFERRING.

(By Associated Press.)  
SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 6.—Five members of the California State Brewers' association are deliberating to determine some way whereby the proposed Rominger liquor regulation bill might license the sale of beer without meals. They claimed the provision operated against the poor man.

#### POSTPONE HEARING.

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**BUTLER THEATRE**

TO-NIGHT

BESSIE BARRISCALE, in "WOODEN SHOES"

A picturesque picture of Holland, from the pen of J. G. Hawkes. Regular village built at cost of \$35,000.

"A LOVE CASE"

Triangle Comedy

TOMORROW

Dustin Farnum, in "North of 53" and "The Fighting Trail"

Matinee 1:30—Night 7 & 8:30

Admission 11c and 17c